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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Temporary Reprieve for the Valley

HAMILTON, MT; DATE, JULY 20, 2007. --- Weather gave us a temporary reprieve today with cloud cover and slightly higher humidity in the valley. There were two new fire starts in the last 24 hours. One ignition, the Fall Ridge fire, located south west of Skalkaho Falls, was lightning caused and burned approximately ¼ acre. The fire was considered out by early afternoon. The second, Chain of Lakes fire, was also lightning caused and burned 1/10 of an acre.

The following website may be accessed for more fire information: http://63.196.254.151/WildWeb/WCMT-BRC.htm and follow the links to 'open incidents'.

Forest officials would like to remind everyone that Stage II fire restrictions go into effect one minute after midnight Monday July 23rd. Weather will continue to be hot and dry, making fire potential extremely high. The public is urged to recreate safely and with caution.

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Ravalli County Commissioners